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04/12/92.  
**INDEPENDENT  
DEVELOPMENT  
TRUST**

4 December 1992

Mr John Samuel  
Head : Education Department  
African National Congress  
P O Box 61884  
MARSHALLTOWN 2107



Dear Mr Samuel

I would like to thank you for the meeting which Messrs M Maforah, N Tsiki and I held with you on Friday 30 October.

For purposes of the record, I would like to re-emphasise the two main points of the discussion :

**1) Tertiary Education Fund of South Africa (TEFSA) :**

We discussed fully with you the TEFSA and the entire issue of deferred cost repayment as a process which could enhance student access especially for disadvantaged students. We emphasised the need for some State central mechanism for collection of the repayments of the loans. We informed you of the umbrella legislation which we hope will be passed during the next session of parliament under which TEFSA could register to ensure that employers deduct the loan at site.

In addition, we raised with you the possibility of a National Conference to discuss the loan fund. We have been approached by SASCO to organise this. Thank you very much for your advice in this regard which revolved around the importance of thoroughly preparing the ground before going in to such a conference. You stressed the need for a wide-ranging consultation and prepared positions before opening it up in a national forum. I have raised this point with Mr Eric Molobi of the Kagiso Trust and both of us will proceed on this basis.

**2) School Building Programme :**

We set out the community structures which we have established to ensure real participation in the process of school building and beyond. While you were completely supportive of the approach and the need for schools to be



built, you explained the difficulty which the ANC has in endorsing any particular project. You explained the establishment of regional structures around the National Education Conference and the development of guidelines for endorsement of projects. Nevertheless, you expressed the notion that a future government would have to do what is necessary to build schools as a matter of priority as part of the reconstruction process and that the approach that we were adopting in meaningful community participation was something which would have to form a central thrust of any future arrangement.

I will copy this letter to Prof Wiseman Nkuhlu who will ensure that these discussions are taken up with the Desk and through the structures of the ANC. He has been in contact with Mr Trevor Manuel and they will decide when it is propitious for a further meeting to take place, perhaps in a somewhat enlarged forum.

I must thank you once again for the very constructive and positive meeting which we held. Our delegation came away from there feeling considerably encouraged about the directions we are taking and the possibility for real actual reconstruction of the education system in South Africa.

Thank you once again.

Yours sincerely



**PROF M C MEHL**  
**DIRECTOR : EDUCATION**

cc : Prof W Nkuhlu